**ESPIRIT Chart**

You must include main ideas and details in each category

Civilization/Nation/Group: Pre-Islam Arabic\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| E | * Arabian Peninsula was an uninhabitable desert zone, where varieties of **Bedouin,** or nomadic, cultures based on camel and goat herding, developed over centuries. -These camel nomads developed into clans. * Limited flourished of agriculture and town * In the far south, only coastal regions had extensive agriculture, sizeable cities, and regional kingdoms * Number of cities like **Mecca,** were linked to transcontinental trading systems. (Mediterranean to east Asia) **Medina** had caravan trade of fruit and seeds. |
| S | * Bedouin herders were organized into clans, family, and culture with language and religion.-later clustered into larger tribal groups. * In these times, there were strong dependence on the loyalty to one’s family and clan. Survival depended on cooperation; to be cut from one was fatal. * Mecca and Medina were large extension of tribal culture. (Medina second to Mecca.) * In tribal clans, there were inequalities in wealth and status * Social classes, warriors above slaves family * Battles between clans were fought with chivalry * Merchants and Bedouins traded in Mecca and exchanged gossips and city life. * *Women*: They had greater freedom and high status then from neighboring civilizations, but were still not equal to men. * Not secluded and didn’t have to wear veils. Key economical role, advice was higher regarded and better marriage contracts. * Women couldn’t be prized warriors. Property control, inheritance, and divorce heavily favored men. Women status depended on a tribes/clans legal code. |
| P | * Clan councils regulated watering places, oasis and grazing lands, which maintained herds, Bedouin depended on. * The **shaykhs** were elected leaders of tribes and clans by councils of elder advisors. (Shaykhs were very often very power men) Their dictates were enforced by bands of free warriors. * **Umayyad** clan of the **Quraysh** Bedouin tribe dominated politics. (also commercial *Economy*) |
| I | * Tribal groups were rarely congregated together but only in times of war. War was reinforced by fierce inter-clan revelries and struggles to control vital pastureland watering places. * From the culture, Inter-clan violence occurred from the littlest of events and remarks. Battles were hard-fought sand often bloody affair. These battles initiated or perpetuated clan feuds. * When death occurred, a dead warrior clan would take revenge and reprise on the other clan. - The fighting weakened the Bedouins. (Relations to neighboring peoples and empires, allowing them to be easily manipulated and against each other.) |
| R | * Bedouin religion were most a blend of animism and polytheism * Tribes like the Quraysh seldom prayed and sacrificed to the supreme god, Allah. They focused on less abstract spirits. (Neglected) * Spirits and Gods were often associated with night * Mecca had **Ka’ba**, there were revered religious shrines. (Attracting pilgrims and customers for Mecca’s bazaars and obligatory truces for inter-clan feuds) * Medina is the city of Prophet Muhammad. * Several trading town in the rocky region adjacent to the Red Sea played pivotal roles in the emergence of Islam. The rise of religion in a Bedouin world shaped the prophet’s career: His teaching and new belief spread. |
| I | Its culture was not highly developed (Mecca)   * Far south had little art or architecture of worth. * The main focus of Bedouin cultures was poetry composed and transmitted orally. They often spoken of heroism. (Provides insight to life and society in Pre-Islamic Arabia) |
| T | Either highly developed in technology   * Poems * Goats and camel herding * Farming of fruits and seeds |